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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Darran Potter

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EXAMINER

TAYLOR, NICHOLAS R

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2141

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/683,918	Applicant(s) POTTER ET AL.	
	Examiner NICHOLAS TAYLOR	Art Unit 2141	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Applicant's submission filed on March 23rd, 2008, has been entered.

2. The proposed amendments to the specification filed on March 23rd, 2008, are approved.

3. Claims 1-36 have been presented for examination and are rejected.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed March 23rd, 2008, with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10-12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27-29, 31, 32, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aura (U.S. Patent 6,947,725).

7. As per claim 1, Aura teaches a method for improving service accounting in a network, the method comprising the steps of:

in an authentication, authorization, and accounting server; (Aura, col. 4, line 48 to col. 5, line 14; see fig. 2 and 3 architecture)

authenticating and authorizing a client; (Aura, see, e.g., col. 5, lines 1-25; fig. 1 step 122 which may also include pulling additional information via step 140; see col. 7, lines 42-48 and fig. 2, step 204)

in response to authenticating and authoring the client, sending an authorization accept message that includes an accounting record within the message; (Aura, col. 5, lines 14-30; fig. 2, item 214 and fig. 3, item 316)

causing the accounting record to be logged; and (Aura, col. 5, lines 1-30)

receiving, subsequent to the sending, a start session message that includes the accounting record (Aura, col 5, lines 28-30; col. 6, lines 34-49; and see fig. 2, event 206 or fig. 3, item 320).

8. As per claim 2, Aura teaches the system further comprising the step of obtaining the accounting record for the client from an external resource (Aura, see, e.g., fig. 3 steps 312 and 314 and col. 8, lines 45-68).

9. As per claim 4, Aura teaches the system further wherein the client is selected from the group consisting of a wireless network client, a wired network client, and a dial up client (Aura, col. 4, lines 12-31).

10. As per claim 6, Aura teaches the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises causing the accounting record to be logged on an authentication, authorization, and accounting server (Aura, col. 5, lines 1-30).

11. As per claim 7, Aura teaches the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises causing the accounting record to be logged on a network device (Aura, col. 5, lines 1-30).

12. As per claim 10, Aura teaches the system further wherein the accounting record comprises a handle to a second accounting record (Aura, see, e.g., escalating stage multiple account record access described in col. 7, line 42 to col. 8, line 24).

13. As per claim 11, Aura teaches the system further comprising the steps of:

retrieving the second accounting record using the handle to the second accounting record; and causing the second accounting record to be logged (Aura, see, e.g., escalating stage multiple account record access described in col. 7, line 42 to col. 8, line 24).

14. As per claim 12, Aura teaches the system further wherein the accounting record comprises data in a plurality of attribute-value pairs (Aura, see, e.g., record format of col. 5, lines 39-65).

15. As per claim 14, Aura teaches the system further wherein a particular data set is used in the step of authenticating and authorizing and the accounting record comprises said particular data set (Aura, see, e.g., record format of col. 5, lines 39-65).

16. As per claim 15, Aura teaches a method for improving service accounting in a network, the method comprising the steps of:

in a client of an authentication, authorization, and account server (Aura, col. 4, line 48 to col. 5, line 14; see fig. 2 and 3 architecture)

sending an authorization request; (Aura, col. 5, lines 1-13 and fig. 2, event 204)

receiving an accounting record in an authorization accept message; (Aura, col. 5, lines 14-30; fig. 2, item 214 and fig. 3, item 316)

causing the accounting record to be logged; and (Aura, col. 5, lines 1-30)

sending, subsequent to sending the authorization request, a start session message that includes the accounting record (Aura, col 5, lines 28-30; col. 6, lines 34-49; and see fig. 2, event 206 or fig. 3, item 320).

17. As per claim 17, Aura teaches the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises causing the accounting record to be logged on an authentication, authorization, and accounting server (Aura, col. 5, lines 1-30).

18. As per claims 18, 19, and 21-34, Aura teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

19. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

20. Claims 3 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aura (U.S. Patent 6,947,725) and Wang et al. (U.S. PGPub 2003/0035409).

21. As per claim 3, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the step of obtaining the accounting record for the client from a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol directory.

Wang teaches a wireless service gateway using an AAA server that implements the lightweight directory access protocol (Wang, paragraphs 0109-0115, 0186-0187, and fig. 2 structure).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Wang to provide the LDAP protocol-based account records in the system of Aura, because doing so would provide additional protocol support for passing data between network nodes (Aura, see fig. 3 transmissions). Further, the use of the LDAP protocol in Aura would combine several well-known elements in a manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that yield predictable results.

22. As per claim 20, Aura-Wang teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

23. Claims 5, 8, 9, 13, 16, 22, 25, 26, 30, 33, 35, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aura (U.S. Patent 6,947,725) and Barna et al. (U.S. PGPub 2002/0046277).

24. As per claim 5, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises causing the accounting record to be logged on a dedicated logging device.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

25. As per claim 22, Aura-Barna teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when

executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

26. As per claim 8 Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises logging the accounting record with a session start log entry.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

27. As per claim 25, Aura-Barna teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

28. As per claim 9, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises logging the accounting record with a session stop log entry.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

29. As per claim 26, Aura-Barna teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

30. As per claim 13, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further wherein the step of sending is performed in a protocol selected from the group consisting of Remote Authentication Dial In User Service, Terminal Access Controller Access Control System, Diameter, and Security Assertion Markup Language.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a

manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

31. As per claim 30, Aura-Barna teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

32. As per claim 16, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further wherein the step of causing to be logged comprises causing the accounting record to be logged on a dedicated logging device.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known

elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

33. As per claim 33, Aura-Barna teaches the system further comprising a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in the parent claim (Aura, col. 2, lines 10-25).

34. As per claim 35, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further comprising:

wherein the authorization accept message and the start session message conform to the Remote Authentication Dial In User Server (RADIUS) protocol.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in

conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

35. As per claim 36, Aura teaches the above, yet fails to teach the system further comprising:

wherein the authorization accept message and the start session message conform to the Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (RADIUS) protocol.

Barna teaches a logging system for tracking mobile stations in an AAA system that includes a dedicated network logging device (see, e.g., paragraph 0024 and fig. 1 PPS server) with a session start and stop log entry (see, e.g., session start log entry mechanism of paragraphs 0029, 0030, and 0037), while using the RADIUS protocol (paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Aura and Barna to provide the RADIUS logging of Barna in the system of Aura, because doing so would enable the important and account count of the network data transferred which would otherwise be impossible in conventional AAA systems (see Barna, paragraphs 0005-0008). Further, the use of the RADIUS protocol and session logging in Aura would combine several well-known elements (e.g., established network protocols and transaction logging techniques) in a

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manner that one skilled in the art could have combined using known methods that would yield predictable results.

Conclusion

36. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Taylor whose telephone number is (571) 272-3889. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00am to 5:30pm, with alternating Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/NT/
Nicholas Taylor
Examiner
Art Unit 2141

/Jason D Cardone/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2145